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# Ramona Tower

## Ready For Action

Construction of Ramona Airport's Air Traffic Control Tower is complete and the public got its only chance to tour the facility December 6.

The new 1,800-square-foot facility stands four stories high and is fully equipped with the latest telecommunications and meteorological equipment.

County Supervisor Dianne Jacob joined other dignitaries for the tower's ribbon cutting and dedication. Visitors toured the facility, checked out aircraft displays and enjoyed a pancake breakfast.

The tower was built to enhance safety at Ramona. Construction for the \$1.5 million project began in April. It begins handling operations in early January.

Ramona Airport is home to 200 aircraft, and is the Air Attack Base for the California Department of Forestry and U.S Forest Service. With more than 100,000 operations in 2002, it's the third busiest facility in the County's eight-airport system.



*New control tower open at Ramona Airport.*



*No glitter or movie stars at this Hollywood and Vine in Morena Village.*

## Road Names Tell Something About Our Region, Culture, Selves

*By Tom Davis*

Hollywood and Vine—an intersection that conjures up images of movie stars, glitz and glamour. But there's another junction with the same name in a sleepy corner of San Diego County—Morena Village, a few blocks from Lake Morena. Roads with the same names, but miles apart in more ways than one.

The names of County-maintained roads usually reflect a little something about everything around us, and about ourselves. We name our roads after our people, nature, and history. With Mexico so near, we use Spanish words for many of our roads. Sometimes we mix English and Spanish, often not very successfully when translated.

We repeat ourselves – There are five Olive Streets, five Orange Avenues, and four Oak Lanes. Twenty-four roads start with Oak. Imagine telling someone you live on Oakgrove Road in Descanso – just turn off Oak Grove Road to get there.

Whimsy can be the only thing that conjured up Outinda Street and Phire Place in Spring Valley. We spell our names backward – Nerak Court, Ogram Drive.

When roads are realigned, we often retain the old part and name it Old-something. Old Chase Avenue, Old Japatul Road, Old Cole Grade Road, etc. Then there is Old Road in Valley Center, which is, I guess, just old.

see **Road Names**, page 4

## From the Director's Desk

While some of us continue to work on issues related to the October fires, many others are back dealing with the normal duties of the department. There are plenty of challenges coming at us this new year, and we'll all get a chance to help meet them successfully.

Our budget is a key concern. With State funding for some of our projects uncertain, we're taking a cautious approach—assessing and evaluating. But we're also moving forward with several projects underway and

ready to begin. There are still a large number of private projects that require our attention, and infrastructure and facilities need to be maintained.

We've always been a hard-working department focused on serving our customers and I know we'll continue with great customer service throughout the coming months.

  
John Snyder,  
Director

## Safety & Wellness

### You Can Protect Yourself from West Nile Virus

*By Carl Spiron, Safety Officer*

What is everybody buzzing about? It is the new bug in town. The West Nile Virus is certainly something to be concerned about.

Here are answers to some questions you may have about protecting yourself:

**Is DEET safe?** Testing indicates that DEET is a very safe product.

**Can I use insect repellent containing DEET and sunscreen at the same time?** The

CDC states that people can and should use both sunscreen and DEET when they are outdoors to protect their health. Follow the

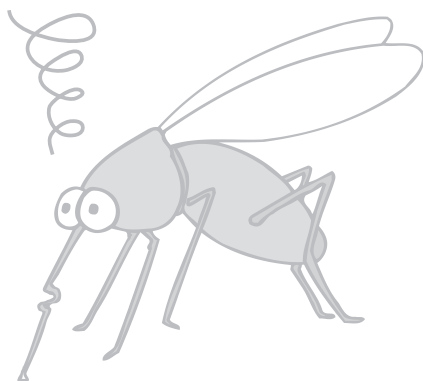
instructions on the package for proper application of each product. Apply sunscreen first, followed by repellent containing DEET.

**How does the percentage of DEET in a product relate to the amount of protection it gives?** Based on a recent study:

- A product containing 23.8% DEET provides an average of 5 hours of protection from mosquito bites.
- A product containing 20% DEET provides almost 4 hours of protection.
- A product with 6.65% DEET provides almost 2 hours of protection.
- Products with 4.75% DEET and 2% soybean oil are both able to provide roughly 1 and a half hours of protection.

So, choose a repellent that provides protection for the amount of time that you will be outdoors. Remember, staying safe is the easy part. Here is a great web site to access more information:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/>



## Training

### Tailor Your Communication Style to Work for You

*By Kirsten Aaboe-Hope, Training Officer*

Ever feel like you and a coworker just can't seem to communicate well? We all have different personal communication styles. Recognize and understand them and you'll be more effective communicating with others. Four basic styles to look for are:

**Bottom-liner:** These people focus on results. They want other people to get to the point, and quickly. They grow impatient with too much chitchat or beating around the bush. Chances are their workplaces are very well organized and uncluttered. You'll communicate most effectively by going straight to the basic message without delay.

**Relationship-oriented:** Some people are driven to connect with others on a personal level. They're always ready to talk about their family and friends, and ask you about yours. They know lots of people around the organization and usually know what's going on better than anyone else. Take some time to get friendly with these people; learn about their families and personal histories. You'll form a bond that will help you communicate smoothly about work topics, too.

**Analyzer:** These folks rely on facts and data to make decisions. They'll listen if you provide detailed, logic-driven information supporting your point. One good strategy: Give them a few pages of statistics or data to look over on their own so they can analyze the ideas and see that they're workable.

**Enthusiast:** Turned on by new ideas and interesting challenges, these people can get very involved in what they're talking about, using physical gestures and dramatic figures of speech. Talk about the big picture to get their energy up; and don't drown them in excessive details. Keep the goal in mind.

Do any of these sound familiar? What type are you and what types are the people that work around you? If you've had difficulties communicating with someone, use these styles to tailor your communication for better results.

## Land Development

### Sinsay Says Job is Easy to Like



Ed Sinsay

By Jessica Eslinger

“Mine’s an easy job to like,” said Ed Sinsay, project manager for Land Development.

Sinsay manages subdivisions in the “foothills” area, a segment of unincorporated land in and around Lakeside, Alpine, Crest and Dehesa. His four-member team includes himself, two civil engineers and one land surveyor. Together, they help guide commercial and residential development in these areas. Among other things, they research and review proposed project files, ensure worksite safety by investigating flooding concerns, and create a set of building conditions to send to the Department of Planning and Land Use before construction can begin.

Sinsay’s team spends almost every day working with the communities they represent, often serving as a liaison between them and the County. Because of their high public profile, they are often called upon to tackle a variety of tasks, ranging from flood control to engineering to design construction projects. Their ability to multitask provides them with a lot of experience and many opportunities for professional development. They also have the added benefit of witnessing the “public good” first-hand.

“I often stay late,” said Sinsay. “It’s the nature of the job, but I don’t realize it because I enjoy what I do and who I work with.”

His career with DPW began in 1988 when he took a job as a junior civil engineer. From there he worked his way to assistant civil engineer, civil engineer, acting project manager, and finally project manager this past September.

## Management Services

### Rebuilding with Refuse

By Jessica Eslinger

When fires tore through San Diego County’s backcountry in October, more than 2,200 homes and buildings were destroyed, their foundations left cracked and unstable. Heaps of debris and other waste collected in and around these foundations and slabs.

Many burn-area residents were eager to clear their properties, and not knowing what else to do, piled fire waste into trash bins, sending it directly to County landfills. Remnants of the fires threatened landfill capacity. The Recycling Section searched for a way to prevent landfill overflow and put the refuse back into the local economy.

When a Julian landowner approached them, offering his 13-acre lot as a central location for concrete recycling, they hired a construction demolition recycling consultant. In less than one month, a deal was negotiated between the landowner and Rerock, a concrete and materials crushing company.

Now, materials that were being sent to landfills are now being diverted to Rerock’s temporary facility in Julian, where they are crushed and recycled for use in new structural foundations and roads.

“It’s very advantageous for Julian and surrounding communities to have a nearby

see **Rebuilding** page 4

### Marsha Cook Tells Clean Water Story Through SDG&E Bill

Take a look at your January gas and electric bill. Not just the bottom line you need to pay, but the insert you’ll also find in the envelope.

Marsha Cook of Watershed Protection wrote an article for San Diego Gas & Electric’s consumer newsletter sent to customers with their bills.

Cook’s story explains what citizens can do to help clean our ocean, bays and lakes. It includes hints on dealing with household chemicals, washing cars, home maintenance and more.

“This is important information and I’m very pleased SDG&E is willing to share it with their customers,” Cook said. “Outreach is one of the key parts of my job and this is certainly a good way to reach a large number of people at one time.”

A utility spokesman said the article also ran in bills sent to Southern California Gas customers in December.

## Engineering Services

### Bicycle Transportation Plan Adopted

The future looks bright for county bicyclists. Thanks to the efforts of a handful of DPW Engineering Services staff, a comprehensive bicycle transportation plan has been adopted by the Board of Supervisors and submitted to SANDAG and CALTRANS for approval. The plan will make the County eligible to apply for funding through the State of

see **Bicycle Plan** page 4



## Bicycle Plan (continued)

California's Bicycle Transportation Act funding program. The guide, designed to serve recreational and commuting cyclists, identifies existing and needed routes, describes current bicycle policies and programs, and provides practical strategies for plan implementation.

Four years ago, Project Manager Steve Ron and Civil Engineer Tom Hart began collecting data on existing and potential bicycle routes countywide.

A Technical Advisory Group (TAG), comprised of staff from the departments of Public Works, Planning and Land Use, Parks and Recreation, in addition to CALTRANS officials and members of the County of San Diego Bicycling Coalition, was assembled to guide plan development. Regional workshops were advertised and held in July and October to gain public input. Drafting the plan began mid-summer.

"This is a significant achievement," said Ron. "We were under extreme time pressure to meet three simultaneous approvals and we made every deadline."

Already approved by SANDAG, the Bicycle Plan can get rolling once it gets approval and funding from CALTRANS.



## Names of Note

### Promotions

**Skip Butcher** – Road Maintenance Worker to Equipment Operator

**Gary Hicks** – Public Works Trainee to Equipment Operator

**Kenneth Key** – Road Maintenance Worker to Equipment Operator

**Agustin Rodriguez** – Road Maintenance Worker to Equipment Operator

**Robert Santos** – Public Works Trainee to Equipment Operator

**Bruce Yordt** – Public Works Trainee to Road Maintenance Worker

### New Hires

**Lorna Smith-Ward** – Public Works Trainee, Striping Crew

### Transfers

**Skip Butcher** – Lakeside Road Station to Julian Road Station

**Warren Garrett** – Ramona Road Station to Julian Road Station

**Gary Hicks** – Spring Valley Road Station to Campo Road Station

**Kenneth Key** – Striping Crew to Campo Road Station

**Carlos Michel** – Campo Road Station to Jamacha Road Station

**Brad Oates** – Campo Road Station to Spring Valley Road Station

## Road Names (continued)

Nature plays a big part in road naming. We live in Paradise – Paradise Mountain, Paradise Park, and Paradise Valley to be specific. We live on Hidden Crests, Hidden Glens, Hidden Meadows and Hidden Hollows. Then there are Picturesque Point, Sunny Lane and Moon View Way.

You might feel lucky if you lived on Winners Circle or Windfall Trail. It might have seemed shrewd to move to Cunning Lane, but not to La Sencilla (The Simple One).

Some of our customers live on The Happy Way (La Via Feliz), in The Clouds (Las Nubes), and on The Ascent (La Subida). Some live on The Edge (La Orilla), and in The Pool (La Alberca).

Some road names are beautiful in Spanish and in English when translated: Paseo Del Terreno/Walk of the Land, La Madre Selva/The Mother Forest, and Vereda Callada/Quiet Path. But those who are multi-lingual must chuckle when they drive by The Holes Road (Los Huecos), and The Rabbits Road (Los Conejos). Be sure to keep your eyes open when you go by To Look At Court (Mirar Court). You might have to batten down the hatches once in a while if you live on Strong Wind Way (Viento Fuerte). Falda Del Cerro rolls off the tongue, but Skirt of the Hill doesn't.

## Rebuilding (continued)

crushing facility," said Wayne Williams, Recycling Program Coordinator. "This type of resource recovery for badly burned sites puts building materials back into the areas that need them the most."

The facility, approved mid-December, will remain in Julian until December, 2005.

## Milestones



**Raphael Carpenter** – Equipment Operator, Alpine Road Station

**William Daenitz** – Equipment Operator, Lakeside Road Station

**Edward Del Toro** – Equipment Operator, Jamacha Road Station

**John Welch** – Equipment Operator, Wastewater Operations



**Cliff Savage** – Road Crew Supervisor, Campo Road Station



**Steven Croft** – Equipment Operator, Spring Valley Road Station

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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